

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
DIVISION OF ENGINEERING SERVICES  
OFFICES OF STRUCTURE CONSTRUCTION  
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October 1, 2001

**BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY  
CONTRACTORS OF CALIFORNIA**

Dear Bridge Construction Forum Attendees:

The first Bridge Construction Forum was a great opportunity for the Bridge Construction Industry in California and Structure Construction to meet and talk.

Progress and change is not always rapid. Since the forum, Industry has become involved in the new Structure Construction Falsework Academy. The forum has also opened communications to improve structure construction practices. The elimination of a closure pour for staged bridge construction was initiated by a Structure Representative, and a team has been established to look into new early closure pour criteria.

Other issues raised at the forum are less easily addressed over a short period of time. Training and development of new staff is an ongoing issue for Structure Construction. Our Winter Training is an annual effort for all Structure Construction employees and our new Senior Bridge Engineer Specialists are developing training modules for various phases of bridge construction. Flyash issues are still being researched. They will not be resolved as quickly as many would like, but there is now a greater awareness of the issue.

This first forum Structure Construction wanted to listen to industry. As promised, a list of discussion issues was created and an action plan for each issue has been developed. This list can be found on the Structure Construction Internet Website at [www.dot.ca.gov/hq/esc/construction/construc.htm](http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/esc/construction/construc.htm).

Planning has already begun for the 2002 forum and we hope the California Bridge Construction industry will continue it's high level of involvement and commitment to this method of communication and information sharing. Please call me at (916) 227-8845 if you would like to discuss any of the action plans, and I hope to see you at the 2002 California Bridge Construction Forum!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Dolores M. Valls", is positioned above the typed name.

DOLORES M. VALLS, Deputy Division Chief  
Offices of Structure Construction

C: AGC/Tony Grasso  
Bob Pieplow, Division of Construction  
Bob Buckley, Division of Engineering Services  
Rick Land, Deputy Division Chief, Structure Design  
Phil Stolarski, Deputy Division Chief, METS  
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